

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 NEA-10 IO-14 AF-10

SAB-01 EURE-00 DRC-01 /192 W
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P R 281346Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3045

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 1022

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY: EC/ARAB COOPERATION INITIATIVES

REF: STATE 0377680, THE HAGUE 992

1. DURING A DISCUSSION ON FEBRUARY 26 WITH THE DCM
ON QUOTE THE STATE OF EUROPE UNQUOTE FONOFF POLITICAL
AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL VAN LYNDEN SAID THAT HE WAS
RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC THAT THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CON-
FERENCE WOULD NOT HAVE A LASTING NEGATIVE IMPACT ON
INTRA-EC NINE RELATIONS AND THE MOVEMENT TOWARD EUROPEAN

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UNITY. HE SHARED THE GENERAL VIEW THAT FONMIN JOBERT

WAS AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT MAN TO DEAL WITH BUT HE THOUGHT THAT THE COMMUNITY'S BROKEN BONES COULD BE KNIT OVER TIME. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OTHERS IN THE GON WERE LESS SANGUINE, NOTABLY STATE SECRETARY BRINKHORST, WHO WAS SAYING THAT THIS WAS THE LAST CHANCE FOR EUROPE TO PULL ITSELF TOGETHER.

2. THE DCM RECALLED THAT VAN LYNDEN HAD INFORMED THE EMBASSY IN EARLY JANUARY OF THE DUTCH APPROACH TO EC-ARAB COOPERATION (THE HAGUE 112) AND THAT MORE RECENTLY TWO OF VAN LYNDEN'S FONOFF COLLEAGUES HAD SUPPLIED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND INQUIRED WHAT THE US THOUGHT ABOUT THE PROJECT (THE HAGUE 864 AND THE HAGUE 386). WASHINGTON HAD APPRECIATED THE FRANKNESS WITH WHICH THE DUTCH AND SOME OF OUR OTHER EC FRIENDS HAD SPOKEN TO US ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT, AS WE CONSIDERED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT TIMELY AND THOROUGH DISCUSSION TAKE PLACE IN VIEW OF US LEADERSHIP IN ASSISTING THE ARABS AND ISRAELIS TO REACH A LASTING PEACE SETTLEMENT. THE DCM THEN ACQUAINTED VAN LYNDEN WITH ALL ASPECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED EC-ARAB DIALOGUE (REF STATE TEL), EMPHASIZING OUR TWOFOLD CONCERN: THAT THE DIALOGUE NOT RPT NOT INPinge ON THE WORK OF THE COORDINATING GROUP IN DEVELOPING A NEW STRUCTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON ENERGY, AND NOT INTERFERE WITH THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES TO COMPLETE THE DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. THE DCM MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS UNDER NO INSTRUCTIONS TO REQUEST ANY PARTICULAR DUTCH ACTION. HOWEVER SINCE THE GON HAD ASKED FOR OUR VIEWS WE WANTED THE DUTCH TO BE AWARE OF THEM AS THE EC NINE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE SUBJECT.

3. VAN LYNDEN CALLED FOR BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WHICH FONOFF HAD SENT BY COURIER TO FONMIN VAN DER STOEL (ON VISIT TO AFRICA) RE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' DISCUSSION OF EC-ARAB DIALOGUE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 4. VAN LYNDEN COMPARED THE MEMORANDUM CAREFULLY WITH US VIEWS DCM HAD JUST GIVEN HIM AND INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NO CONCEPTUAL CONFLICT. VAN LYNDEN RECALLED THAT DUTCH HAD FROM THE BE-SECRET

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GINNING FAVORED A QUOTE GLOBAL APPROACH UNQUOTE WHEREBY AN EC INITIATIVE WOULD APPLY NOT ONLY TO THE ARABS BUT TO ALL OF THE ME STATES INCLUDING ISRAEL AND IRAN. VAN LYNDEN COULD NOT PREDICT WHETHER SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD FIND FAVOR AMONG MAJORITY OF THE NINE, AND HE SEEMED DUBIOUS ABOUT BRINGING THE FRENCH AROUND. IN ANY EVENT HE TOOK THE POINT THAT FOR THE REASONS WE HAD CLEARLY SET FORTH IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL FOR OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES IN

THE MIDDLE EAST AND ON THE ENERGY PROBLEM FOR THE
INCIPIENT EC-ARAB DIALOGUE TO REMAIN OF AN EXPLORATORY
NATURE AT THIS STAGE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOME OF
THE NETHERLANDS' EC PARTNERS WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO
PUSH AHEAD FASTER THAN WASHINGTON OR THE HAGUE THOUGHT
DESIRABLE IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. IN CLOSING VAN LYNDEN EXPRESSED GENUINE APPRECIATION
FOR THE EMBASSY'S DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE DEPART-
MENT'S VIEWS, WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO
FONMIN VAN DER STOEL IN DECIDING UPON THE POSITION HE
WOULD ADOPT AT THE MARCH 4 EC MINISTERIAL.
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